

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-25

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APPROVED BY S - THE SECRETARY

EUR:AAHARTMAN

S/S-O: M.TANNER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 265555

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU, CY

SUBJECT:SECRETARY'S ORAL MESSAGE TO BITSIOS

REF: ANKARA 8293

1. PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING ORAL MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY TO FONMIN BITSIOS.

2. BEGIN MESSAGE. AS YOU SUGGESTED, WE HAVE COMMUNICATED THE SUBSTANCE OF THE TURKISH POSITION REGARDING THE RENEWAL OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS DIRECT TO ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS, AND HAVE RECEIVED FROM HIM HIS REACTION. ON THE BASIS OF OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE TURKISH AND GREEK POSITIONS REGARDING THE RENEWAL OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS, I HAVE SENT ANOTHER MESSAGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL ADVISING HIM OF ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS' COMMENTS AND SUGGESTING THE USEFULNESS OF HAVING MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON THE TURKISH POSITION REGARDING TERRITORIAL ASPECTS OF A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT.

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3. IN HIS REPLY, CAGLAYANGIL STRESSED THAT THE TURKISH SIDE HAD MADE THE DIFFICULT POLITICAL DECISION TO INCLUDE TERRITORIAL ASPECTS IN THE CONTEXT OF CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS. HE STATED FURTHER THAT THE TURKISH SIDE WAS READY TO

NEGOTIATE THE CYPRUS QUESTION, FREE FROM ANY PRECONDITIONS, ON AN AGENDA WHICH WOULD INCLUDE: 1) BIZONAL FEDERATION, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT WITH LIMITED POWERS AND EQUAL PARTICIPATION OF THE COMMUNITIES IN THIS GOVERNMENT, AND 2) OTHER ASPECTS OF THE CYPRUS QUESTION INCLUDING TERRITORIAL MATTERS.

4. CAGLAYANGIL SUGGESTED THAT THE GREEK SIDE WOULD BE FREE TO PUT FORWARD THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THEY COULD ACCEPT THE BIZONAL FEDERATION, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT WITH LIMITED POWERS, AND EQUAL PARTICIPATION OF THE TWO COMMUNITIES IN THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. HE NOTED THAT THE STAGE WOULD THEN BE REACHED WHEN MATTERS RELATING TO BORDER CHANGES COULD BE DEALT WITH DURING INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING FROM THIS THAT EACH SIDE COULD STATE ITS CONDITIONS FOR ACCEPTING THE POSITION OF THE OTHER SIDE, BUT THAT AGREEMENT ON THIS WOULD NOT BE A PRECONDITION TO THE OPENING OF THE TALKS. THIS WOULD APPEAR TO ALLOW THE GREEK SIDE TO ENTER THE TALKS WITHOUT HAVING TO ACCEPT BEFOREHAND THE TURKISH POSITION ON THE AGENDA ITEMS. I BELIEVE THAT THIS SUGGESTION MERITS CONSIDERATION AS A BASIS FOR RESUMING THE TALKS.

5. SINCE WE HAVE NOT BEEN TOLD WHAT TERRITORIAL ADJUSTMENTS THE TURKISH SIDE IS PREPARED TO MAKE, I CAN TELL YOU NOTHING FURTHER AT THIS TIME ON THIS ISSUE. IT CONTINUES TO BE OUR IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, THAT THE TURKISH SIDE IS SERIOUS IN WANTING TO GET ON WITH NEGOTIATIONS THAT ADDRESS ALL ASPECTS OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. AT THE SAME TIME, IT IS APPARENT THAT DOMESTIC TURKISH POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, OF WHICH YOU ARE AWARE, MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO TAKE A POSITION ON TERRITORY IN ADVANCE OF TALKS. THIS WOULD SEEM TO BE THE TIME TO TEST THE EXTENT OF TURKISH FLEXIBILITY ON THE TERRITORIAL ISSUE IN THE PROCESS OF THE INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS.

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6. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING FROM AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD'S CONVERSATION WITH ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS THAT AFTER THE UN DEBATE ON CYPRUS, THE GREEK SIDE WOULD BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER RESUMING THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS WITHOUT A SPECIFIC UNDERSTANDING REGARDING THE SCOPE OF TERRITORIAL ADJUSTMENTS. I BELIEVE THAT THIS WOULD BE A WISE MOVE, AND I WOULD

LIKE TO ASSURE YOU AND THE GREEK GOVERNMENT THAT
ONCE TALKS ARE UNDERWAY, WE WILL BE PREPARED TO LEND OUR
FULL SUPPORT, AS THE PARTIES MAY WISH, TO HELP THEM
ARRIVE AT AN ACCEPTABLE AND JUST SOLUTION.

7. IT IS OUR HOPE THAT THE CURRENT UN TREATMENT OF THE
CYPRUS ISSUE WILL AVOID STERILE AND ACRIMONIOUS EXCHANGES
AND WILL PRODUCE A RESOLUTION THAT ENDORSES THE INTER-
COMMUNAL TALKS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UN SECRETARY
GENERAL.

8. I WOULD WELCOME HAVING YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE
SITUATION AS WELL AS YOUR ADVICE AS TO WHETHER YOU
BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR ME TO SEND A MESSAGE
TO ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS SUGGESTING THAT HE AGREE TO
A RESUMPTION OF THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS ON THE ABOVE
BASIS. END MESSAGE. KISSINGER

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